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~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS~~COUNTRY Russia

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Soviet Troops in the Dobruja and in Craiova

EVALUATION [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONT

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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Soviet Field Exercises in the Coastal Area North of Constanta.

1. Soviet troop trains were unloaded at the railroad station in Canara (Ovidiu R 53/54/E 61) from 10 to 12 May 1950. About 300 tanks and an unknown number of guns and motor vehicles were observed with the troops. (1)
2. Columns of Soviet tanks and motor vehicles moved north past the villages of Corbul de Jos (R 53/54/E 73), Corbul de Sus, Vadul (R 53/54/E 74) during the nights between 5 and 15 June 1950, according to local residents. (2)
3. A resident of Sarichioi (R 55/E 89) observed five camouflaged tanks and some Soviet soldiers with submachine guns in the Babadag (R 53/54/E 7E) woods, east of a road, on 11 June 1950. Signal rockets were seen over the said woods during the night of 11 June 1950. Aircraft were also seen over that area. (3) and (4)
4. It was learned between 10 and 15 June 1950 that civilian traffic in the Cape Midia (off Corbul de Jos) - Corbul de Sus - Istria (R 53/54/E 74) - Lunca (R 53/54/E 87) - Gura Portita area had been restricted on orders of the Soviet Army. (5)
5. There were Soviet heavy caliber guns, of 305 and 150 mm, in the coastal area of Cape Midia - Gura Portita, according to local residents. (6)
6. [REDACTED]

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Soviet Troops in Craiova

7. A train carrying about 100, new, unnumbered ZIS trucks and Soviet troops in six boxcars, passed through the Craiova railroad station at 11 p.m. on 15 June 1950. The train came from the U.S.S.R. and proceeded toward Timisoara. (E)

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8. Truck [REDACTED] carrying Soviet soldiers wearing black epaulets, arrived in Craiova on 19 June 1950, coming from Bucharest. The truck remained in Craiova.

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- (1) [REDACTED] Comment. The number of tanks observed indicates that the troops detained in Canara, 12 km NW of Constanta, amounted to at least one division. This is the first report since early January 1950 to state that Soviet troops were in the Constanta area. See 25X1X ([REDACTED] reported only on Soviet offices in Constanta. The origin of the troops is not known. They may have been the Soviet troops observed in the Braila-Galati area by a fairly reliable source in late October 1949, or may have recently arrived in Rumania via Jassy and Galati. A third possibility, that the troops may have disembarked in Constanta, is ruled out since they probably would not have been reloaded on trains for the short trip to Canara. In general, the report indicates that another Soviet division, the third in Rumania, may be located in eastern Rumania.

25X1A Confirmation is required, however.

- (2) [REDACTED] Comment. Movements of the Soviet troops detained in Canara to the training area between Babadag and the Black Sea coast.

- 25X1X(3) [REDACTED] Comment. The Soviet troops in the coastal area north of Constanta started a field exercise on 5 June 1950. The exercise was apparently designed to defend the coastal strip between Cape Midia and Gura Portita against enemy landing forces. The assembly area for the Soviet forces seemed to be the Babadag woods.

- 25X1A (4) [REDACTED] Comment. It is considered possible that the exercise was conducted as described [REDACTED] 25X1X

- 25X1A (5) [REDACTED] Comment. In view of the Soviet field exercises in that area, the traffic restrictions appear possible.

- 25X1A (6) [REDACTED] Comment. Rumanian naval ground units were in the coastal area south of Constanta in late February 1950, according to the same source.

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- (7) [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] 25X1C

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[REDACTED] It is possible, therefore, that some of the motor vehicles may have been engaged in routine traffic, of other units, and not associated with the activity in Canara, particularly since numbers of several series listed in the report were previously reported from the Constanta and Craiova areas, Rumania.

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- (8)  Comment. Probably a train carrying replacements and a supply shipment of trucks from the U.S.S.R.

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